

Washington State Elections Weekly

December 17, 2014

Tech Summit – Update

The Tech Summit Committee received eight total proposals in response to [our RFP for business analysis & business requirements](#). Members of the committee reviewed and scored the proposals. The Tech Committee will interview the six top-scoring vendors on January 20 and 21 with the goal of identifying one or two finalists to move forward for reference checks and a final selection.

Clearinghouse Notices

Did you know the [Clearinghouses and Advisories](#) are chronologically arranged? Similar to the E101 Manual, we’ve organized the 28 up-to-date notices into these five subject areas.

1. Election Administration (such as Service and Overseas Voters, Protecting Secrecy of the Vote)
2. Voter Registration (Voter Registration Transfers, Applicants without Identification)
3. Election Preparation (Filing for Office, Presidential Elections)
4. Balloting and Security (Unsigned Ballots and Mismatched Signatures, Processing Electronic Ballots)
5. Completing the Election (Oaths of Office, Calculating Validation Figures)

USPS Standard/Nonprofit Mail

The [National Voter Registration Act](#) (NVRA) allows nonprofit rates for election mailings that update voter registration information. In our state, forwarded and undeliverable ballot information is for that purpose, so ballots may be mailed using nonprofit standard rates. However, ballots must meet USPS regulations for the mail class.

For example, the ballot return address printed on the outer mailing envelope must only list the name of the authorized nonprofit organization—the name of the organization approved on the nonprofit application. To meet the regulation, a Mailpiece Design Analyst recently required the Auditor’s name be printed at the bottom:

Example County Auditor
Street Address
City
Jill Doe

More information about [standard mail rates](#) and [election mail](#) may be found on the USPS website, and always consult with your USPS Mailpiece Design Analyst to meet USPS requirements.

Question of the Week | Service Voters

Question: The definition of a service voter refers to a “member of the armed forces . . . while in active service.” Does the law also require that a “member of a reserve component of the armed forces” be deployed/active to qualify?

Answer: If they are a member the National Guard or other military reserve, such as Army Reserves, they qualify as a service voter. Active status is not required.

Got ‘Weekly?’

If you need to change your email address or add a staff member to the *Washington State Elections Weekly* listserv, please send an email to [Allyson Ruppenthal](#).

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